



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Nathaniel H. Yohalem, Chair
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of September 9, 2013

The meeting convened at 6:33pm

Board Members Present: Nathaniel Yohalem, Chairman
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Jessica Bosworth, Administrative Secretary

Prior to the meeting the Board and the Highway Superintendent met with three candidates for the position of Highway Driver/Laborer and will be making a decision next week. The Highway Superintendent will try to set up an interview for a possible fourth candidate later this week.

Announcements

In the publication Common Ground, newsletter for community planning in the Berkshires, it states that the Hadsell Bridge replacement project is scheduled for FY2015, two years prior to the last scheduled replacement date.

To date the Town has sent out five Bid Packages for the Foley Bridge project.

Dave Hastings, School Superintendent, will be here next Monday, September 16th for an open Town meeting at 6:30pm to, as Chairman Yohalem notes, "break down some of this hostility that seems to exist between the Town and the School Committee" and to answer any questions that anybody may have. Notice for the meeting has been placed around Town and has been released to the radio station, The Berkshire Eagle and The Record. Owen Hoberman, present in the audience, asked if the PTA or members of the New Marlborough School have been notified. The Board agrees that this is a good idea and asks that contact be made with Francine Groener at New Marlborough Central to spread the word.

An email and letter were sent to the Governor last week on behalf of the Board extending an invitation to attend an open Town Hall meeting. Chairman Yohalem is trying to interest and involve the community in the Town.

Dan Litchfield, the Town's electrician, spoke with Chairman Yohalem and Michele Shalaby last week about lighting in the Library. A grant may be available from National Grid to switch the lighting from fluorescent to LED at no charge to the Town. The use of LED lights would save the

Town several hundred dollars per year by not having to replace the fluorescent ballasts. As of Friday, National Grid should be in contact with Debbie Obrien at the Library about an appointment to conduct a survey.

Chairman Yohalem asked that Tara White place another sign for the meeting with Dave Hastings in New Marlborough like the one posted at the Town Hall.

MassWorks Update

The Board inquired about the payment from MassWorks to the Town in the amount of \$37,832.90 dated August 28th. Jessica Bosworth, Administrative Secretary, had forwarded the receipt to the Board members and the Accounting Officer, Tara White will follow up on the deposit.

Chairman Yohalem stated that the Town is not eligible to submit an application until next FY for another grant with MassWorks.

Clayton Mill River Culvert

Highway Superintendent Chuck Loring is working to obtain the Engineers report on the survey and core samples. The Board is requesting that it receive the report on the cost of the project by the end of October.

Police Department Software

Police Chief Scott Farrell provided updates on TriTec software, a company based in California that has replaced IMC, which is currently used in most Berkshire counties and across the state. The software is used for dispatch to keep a call log and is a records management program. Chief Farrell is proposing to purchase a "plug-in", which will allow the Police Department to access the Sherriff's Office where dispatch is centralized. Information relating to the dispatched call can then be entered into the daily log by the dispatchers and backfilled into any forms that may need to be reported out by the Police Department(i.e., accident reports, investigations, and citations). The "plug-in" will also be a database for the Department, separate from the Sherriff's Office. If other Police Departments begin using this system, it will be possible for the towns to share information. This system will also be used for the Fire Department and EMS in the same way.

Major Tom Grady at the Sherriff's Office is working with TriTec on a memorandum of understanding for the implementation and yearly costs for the software. The Town will wait until the contract is finalized before moving forward.

The Board signed a Special Speed Regulation for 40mph on the South Sandisfield Road.

Peter Schuyten, present in the audience, asked that signs for a roof washing company be removed from around Town. The Board agreed and asked Chief Farrell to assign an officer to remove them and hold them at Town Hall.

Chairman Yohalem introduced and welcomed the new Administrative Secretary, Jessica Bosworth.

Town Hall Security

Chairman Yohalem asked Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant, about the status of the new door locks. Two quotes will be available by Monday, September 16th for review.

Southern Berkshire Regional School District

The Board and the Subcommittee for the five Towns had set an agenda in July for a meeting to take place in September concerning the cost savings of closing each of the three schools and outlying schools. The items to be discussed were:

1. The capital improvements needed and cost of them for the four schools
2. Percentage of graduating students remaining in the district
3. Review of census data

The Board received an agenda instead for presentations to be given by the Towns of Monterey and Egremont [Statement of vision, plans and actions in connection with the educational program(s) resident in the Town in coordination with the SBRSD] without consultation. The Board agreed to send out a letter addressing its concerns with the change in agenda.

Review, discuss, approve and sign warrants, correspondence and minutes.

The minutes of August 26, 2013 were approved as amended.

Chairman Yohalem read aloud items of correspondence including a letter between Gordon Bailey from the Department of Public Safety to his superior, Chief of Inspections, regarding the meeting with Building Inspector Tom Carmody. The purpose of the meeting was to review certain allegations made by the former Fire Chief relating to the issuances of licenses.

Additional correspondence included a letter from the Library Director naming the two new part-time librarians hired to replace Meredith Haider, Dawn Barbieri and Rosemary McAllister.

Also included was a note from the family of Nell MacKenzie thanking the Board for its expression of sympathy.

Finally, a letter from David Ralph was addressed concerning his property at 345 Old Hitchcock Road. A letter has been requested by Mr. Ralph from the Building Inspector for submission to his title insurance company. Administrative Assistant, Michael Skorput will follow up with Building Inspector, Tom Carmody.

Chairman Yohalem signed a project request for a road condition survey and report for the Town in the amount of \$3300.00 done by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

Planning Board

The Planning Board appeared before the Board of Selectmen to ask about the intentions and scheduling for the Special Town Meeting. The Board is waiting for the Engineer's report on the Clayton Mill River Culvert, one of the items on the agenda. After discussion, the Board decided to make its final decision about when to hold the Special Town Meeting, on October 7, 2013.

The Planning Board has sent an updated zoning map to the Town Clerk and has also posted it on the Town website for public viewing. Also it requested that any voting going forward be done on paper in order to keep documentation records.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made and seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Bosworth
Administrative Secretary